



*Welsh*

AMMANFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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**Medical Officer of  
Health's  
REPORT  
For 1967**



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AMMANFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Miss GWEFRIL FARTHING.

# AMMANFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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AMMANFORD,

September, 1968.

## To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to present my sixteenth Annual Report for the year ending December, 1967.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimated population again showed a fall, sixty fewer than the previous year.

Although Public Health in the area was generally good, there was a marked fall in the number of births, from 82 in 1966 to 60 this year. So for the first time since I have been writing these Annual Reports, the Crude Birth Rate has fallen below 10 per 1,000 home population.

The second part of this Report has been prepared by Mr. Davies, our Public Health Inspector. I wish to take this opportunity of thanking him for his ready assistance and co-operation in the work of the Department, and also the Members of the Council and the Staff for their continued interest and support in the work of the Health Department.

Your Obedient Servant,

G. M. HERBERT.

## GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District	...	...	...	944 Acres
Population (mid-year 1967)	...	...	...	6,090
Number of Inhabited Houses	...	...	...	2,053

Number of dwellings completed in the Urban during 1967 :—

(a) By the Council	...	...	...	Nil
(b) By Private Building	...	...	...	9
Rateable Value	...	...	...	£197,785
Net Product of Penny Rate	...	...	...	£721.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

Births — 60 births were registered during the year, compared with 82 last year.

				M	F	Total
Live Births —	Legitimate	...	...	30	25	55
	Illegitimate	...	...	3	2	5
				—	—	—
				33	27	60
Still Births —	Legitimate	...	...	0	1	1
	Illegitimate	...	...	0	0	0
Total Live and Still Births :—						
	Legitimate	...	...	30	26	56
	Illegitimate	...	...	3	2	5
				—	—	—
				33	28	61

Illegitimate Live Births per cent of total Live Birth :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	1.64
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	5.5

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Population :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	9.89
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	12.9
England and Wales	...	...	...	17.2

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Live and Still Births) :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	16.39
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	19.0
England and Wales	...	...	...	14.8

## INFANT DEATHS.

This year there were two infant deaths, both boys — one under one week and the other under one month.

## INFANT MORTALITY RATES.

Perinatal (Still Births and Infant Deaths under 1 week) :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	32.79
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	32.7
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	25.4

Early Neonatal — Deaths during 1st week :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	16.6
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	13.6
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	10.8

Neonatal Deaths under 4 weeks :—

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	33.3
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	15.9
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	12.5

Under 1 year :

Ammanford	...	...	...	...	33.33
Carmarthenshire	...	...	...	...	18.71
England and Wales	...	...	...	...	18.0

## MATERNAL MORTALITY

This year there were no deaths from Pregnancy or Child-Birth.

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and still births :—

Ammanford	Carmarthenshire	England and Wales
0.0	0.0	0.2

## DEATHS — ALL CAUSES.

There were a few more deaths during the year, 94 compared with 92 in 1966.

Males — 51                      Females — 43

# CAUSES OF DEATH IN 1967.

	M	F	Total
Tuberculosis (All forms) ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Diphtheria ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Acute Poliomyelitis ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Diabetes ... ..	1 ...	1 ...	2
Cancer ... ..	9 ...	6 ...	15
Vascular lesions of Nervous Systems	3 ...	5 ...	8
Coronary Disease, Angina ... ..	15 ...	12 ...	27
Hypertension with Heart Disease ...	1 ...	4 ...	5
Other Heart Diseases ... ..	4 ...	5 ...	9
Other Circulatory Diseases ... ..	2 ...	5 ...	7
Influenza ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Pneumonia ... ..	1 ...	1 ...	2
Bronchitis ... ..	2 ...	0 ...	2
Other Respiratory Diseases ... ..	7 ...	1 ...	8
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	1 ...	0 ...	1
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea ...	0 ...	1 ...	1
Congenital Malformations ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Suicide ... ..	0 ...	0 ...	0
Other Ill-defined Diseases ... ..	3 ...	1 ...	4
Motor Accidents ... ..	1 ...	0 ...	1
All Other Accidents ... ..	1 ...	1 ...	2
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	51	43	94

In the total deaths :—

61% males; and

95% females were 65 years or over;

27% of males; and

76% of females were 75 years or over

Pneumoconiosis was again a contributory cause in seven of the male deaths whose ages ranged from 55 to 78 years.

Crude Death rate per 1,000 home population :—

Ammanford	Carmarthenshire	England and Wales
15.4	13.9	11.2

## CANCER.

There were two fewer deaths from cancer this year. Again four died from cancer of the lung or bronchus. Their ages ranged from 55 to 75 years.

Site	55 - 65		65 - 75		75 over		Total
	M	F	M	F	M	F	
Lung ... ..			3		1		4
Stomach ... ..	3						3
Colon and Rectum					2		2
Pancreas ... ..			1				1
Genito-urinary ...			1				1
Other Sites ...			1	2	1		4
Total ...	3		6	2	4		15

Rate per 1,000 Population :—

Ammanford  
2.6

Carmarthenshire  
2.4

England and Wales  
2.3

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (OTHER THAN TUBERCULOSIS)

The only notifications received during 1967 were 57 cases of Measles. No cases of food poisoning were notified.

## CLASSIFICATION OF NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

			Ammanford			Carmarthenshire		
			1966	1967		1966	1967	
Measles ... ..	...	...	72	57	...	1,007	1,031	...
Scarlet Fever ... ..	...	...	1	0	...	19	41	...
Whooping Cough ... ..	...	...	0	0	...	5	83	...
Poliomyelitis ... ..	...	...	0	0	...	0	0	...
Dysentery ... ..	...	...	0	0	...	36	17	...
Food Poisoning ... ..	...	...	0	0	...	19	2	...



## IMMUNISATION

For the 21st year in succession no Diphtheria occurred in the Area. However, a few cases continue to occur in the country, so parents should ensure that their babies and young children are protected by inoculation. This can be obtained from the Family Doctor or at the Infant Welfare Clinic, held weekly on Tuesday afternoons.

During the past year, most of those immunised received the triple injection protecting them against Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough.

Numbers immunised :—

Under 5 years :

Triple inoculations ... ..	63
Immunised against Diphtheria and Tetanus	2
Tetanus only ... ..	1

Aged 5 — 14 :

Triples ... ..	7
Diphtheria/Tetanus ... ..	2
Tetanus ... ..	7
Booster Triple ... ..	16
Diphtheria/Tetanus ... ..	2
	110

## VACCINATIONS

Smallpox — Vaccinations against Smallpox were performed by the Family Doctors and at the Infant Welfare Clinic. The majority were done at about eighteen months. Separate figures for the area are not available but the total for the whole County are :—

Age at date of Vaccination	Number Vaccinated	Number Revaccinated
Under 1	127	—
Age 1	698	—
2 - 4	264	10
5 - 14	84	157
15 or over	7	51

B.C.G. Vaccinations — Separate figures for this area are not available. The figures for the whole County are :—

	Contact Scheme	School Children
Skin Tested ... ..	172	1686
Found Negative ... ..	121	1476
Vaccinated ... ..	124	1325

Poliomyelitis — Figures for the County  
Vaccination with Oral Vaccine (Sabin)

Age Group	Number of persons who received
	3 doses of Oral Vaccine
Children born in 1967 ... ..	315
Children born in 1966 ... ..	1,185
Children born 1965 ... ..	324
Children born 1964 ... ..	102
Children born 1960-63 ... ..	237
Others under 16 ... ..	65
Total ... ..	2,228

Number of persons given a reinforcing dose of  
Oral Vaccine ... 91

### TUBERCULOSIS

One new case was notified during the year, a male suffering from respiratory disease.

There were no deaths during the year.

#### Tuberculosis Rates :—

Case Rates				Death Rates			
Ammanford ...	Resp.	0.16	...	Resp.	0.0		
	Non. Resp.	0.0	...	Non. Resp.	0.0		
Carmarthenshire	Resp.	0.3	...	Resp.	0.04		
	Non. Resp.	0.04	...	Non. Resp.	0.006		

### MASS RADIOGRAPHY

This year there were twenty four visits compared with twenty two in 1966 and the total attendance was slightly greater, being 1,621, giving an average attendance of 67 per visit this year compared with 60 in 1966.

The unit also visited two factories, Corgi and John White, where another 186 persons were examined.

### OVERSEAS STUDENTS

A small group of the Overseas Students, attending a Social Science Course at Swansea University, spent three weeks at Ammanford prior to commencing their studies. They were given a talk on Public Health Services.

### GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

The following clinics are held at the clinic premises adjoining the Secondary Modern School in High Street, Ammanford.

Orthopaedic — Weekly on Mondays  
(morning and afternoons).

Infant Welfare — Weekly on Tuesday afternoons.

Asthma Clinic — Wednesday mornings.

Chiropody Clinic (for Pensioners only) —  
Wednesday 4 p.m.

Ante-Natal and Post Natal Clinics —  
Weekly on Thursday mornings.

Family Planning Clinic on 2nd and 4th  
Thursday of each month at 5 p.m.

Cytology Clinic — Friday mornings.

### DISTRIBUTION OF WELFARE FOOD

The national Welfare Foods are now distributed at the Infant Welfare Clinic every Tuesday afternoon, from 2 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

### MIDWIVES

There are two qualified midwives practising in the area.

### AMBULANCE SERVICE

A County Ambulance and Car are stationed at the Ambulance Station in High Street.

### NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948 SECTION 47.

No official action was required under this Act, but a few elderly persons were kept under observation and one woman over ninety years of age eventually agreed to voluntary admission to a Welfare Home.

G. M. HERBERT,

Medical Officer of Health.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE  
**PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR**  
FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31st DECEMBER, 1967.

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Mr. Chairman, Mrs. Walters and Gentlemen,

I submit for your consideration my report on the environmental health of the Ammanford Urban District in the year ending 31st December, 1967.

WATER SUPPLY

The supply and distribution of water in the Ammanford Urban District was sufficient and satisfactory during the year.

All houses are connected to the distribution mains. Four houses obtaining their domestic supply from stand pipes in their areas were provided with a piped supply into their houses.

The water supply has a ph of 7.54 and a fluorine content of .072 part per million. The Ministry of Health recommends that the water supply should contain 1 p.p.m. of fluorine to improve the dental health of the area.

The present supply is sufficient for the foreseeable future.

A chemical sample was submitted to the Public Analyst during the year, who made the following observations :—

Organically this water was of excellent quality and contained no unoxidised nitrogenous matter.

It was slightly alkaline in reaction and with a hardness of 90 p.p.m. would be classified as moderately soft.

Bacteriologically the water was of satisfactory quality.

The minute amount of suspended matter contained traces of copper-oxide and was free from micro-organisms.

Corrosion tests were carried out by leaving strips of metal in contact with the water for 7 days.

LEAD : The strip soon became coated with a protective film which stopped prolonged plumbosolent action.

COPPER : Cuprosolvent action was not very marked.

## REFUSE COLLECTION

HOUSE REFUSE. The house refuse is collected from all premises twice weekly by means of a side loader refuse lorry.

The collection is a kerbside collection.

The Occupier of the premises provides the refuse bins.

TRADE REFUSE. The Council have not undertaken to remove Trade Refuse but waste packaging, cardboard and paper is removed from trade premises free of charge on Wednesday of every week, and conveyed to Rhydymaerdy Refuse Tip where it is burned.

## DISPOSAL OF REFUSE

The house refuse is tipped on two sites in the Urban District Area. Rhydymaerdy site at Pantyffynnon and Gelligwaerdy Farm, near the top of Margaret Street, both sites are owned by farmers and the tipping is carried out with the permission of the Farmer, subject to discontinuation without notice. The lack of control of the land on which the refuse is tipped also presents the difficulty of controlling unauthorised persons removing articles from the tipped refuse.

The tipping is semi-controlled, the refuse is levelled mechanically to a depth of approximately 4 feet.

The two tips are sprayed with insecticide twice monthly during the spring and summer months and treated each month for rodent infestation.

Care has been taken to see that the Refuse Tips are inaccessible to animals by enclosing them with suitable fencing as required by the Disease of Animals Act 1950.

## DRAINAGE

The Trunk Sewers and Sewerage Disposal Works are the responsibility of the Amman Valley Joint Sewerage Board.

The rider and secondary sewers with connecting drains are the responsibility of the Council.

101 blockages occurred during the year in these sewers and drains, these blockages were cleared by Council workmen.

The construction of new drains and connections to the rider and secondary sewers are controlled by the Public Health Department and Twenty-nine premises were visited to inspect and test new drainage and alterations to drainage connected to the Public Sewers.

Total number of Houses connected to the Public Sewer ... ..	2,187
Total number of Houses connected to private Septic Tank or Cesspool which are on land which is below the level of the invert of the Public Sewer ... ..	3

## SUMMARY OF INSPECTIONS AND VISITS

Catering Premises ... ..	43
Stalls and Vehicles ... ..	32
Food Shops ... ..	144
Shops other than Foodshops ... ..	74
Bakehouses ... ..	24
Butcher Shops ... ..	62
Refuse Tip ... ..	66
Public Conveniences ... ..	161
Offices ... ..	11
Petroleum Acts ... ..	39
Pet Shops ... ..	3
Housing Inspections ... ..	189
Factories ... ..	38
New Drainage ... ..	40
Existing Drainage ... ..	101
Licence Premises ... ..	36
Noise Abatement ... ..	8
Icecream ... ..	13
Milk ... ..	65
Rodent Control ... ..	281
Caravans ... ..	3
<hr/>	
Total ... ..	1,433

## PUBLIC HEALTH ACTS

No. of Complaints ... ..	120
No. investigated ... ..	120

### Satutory Notices Served :—

P.H.A. 1936 Section 93 ... ..	10
Section 45 ... ..	3
Section 39 ... ..	2
P.H.A. 1961 Section 18 ... ..	1
Section 26 ... ..	1
P.H.A. 1936 Section 138 ... ..	2
Premises in which defects were remedied ... ..	23



## HOUSING ACTS

Number of Housing Inspections	...	...	189
Number reported to Health Committee	...	...	28
Total Council Owned Housing Units	...	...	475
Number of Council houses constructed during 1967	...	...	Nil.
Number becoming vacant during the year for new tenants	...	...	17
Number on the Current Housing List at the end of 1967	...	...	64

## CLEARANCE AREAS — SECTION 44

### HOUSING ACT 1957

The Council declared the Hall Street Clearance Area.

## CLOSING ORDER — SECTION 17

### HOUSING ACT 1957

One Closing Order in respect of 37, Wind Street was sealed.

## OVERCROWDING

One case of statutory overcrowding was reported and abated when the housing applicant in apartments at 90, Walter Road, was rehoused by the Council.

## DEMOLITION

Four Houses were vacated for demolition for road improvements.

## HOUSING ACT 1964 — PART II

No action has been taken in 1967 to compel the improvement of private houses.

## RENT ACT 1957

Two Certificates of Disrepair were issued to tenants in controlled tenancies.

## NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

One Industrial noise complaint was received which on investigation was found to be a defective exhaust box of a diesel compressor. This was repaired and the use of the compressor was eventually discontinued.

## CLEAN AIR ACT 1956

No complaints were received under the Clean Air Act 1956. The anthracite coal mined in the district is, for all practical purposes, a smokeless fuel. This coal is used by the majority of the householders.

The memorandum on chimney heights made under the Clean Air Act 1956 was used to agree a height of the chimney for the heating apparatus of the proposed extension to the Amman Valley Grammar School.

## CARAVAN SITES

No Caravan sites are licenced in the Urban District at the end of 1967. One application for a site licence was received. Consideration of this application was deferred until Planning Approval had been obtained for the use of the land as a Caravan Site.

## SWIMMING BATHS AND PADDLING POOLS

There are no swimming baths in the Ammanford Urban District.

The paddling pool in Ammanford Park was used by a large number of children during the hot summer days. The pool being emptied and refilled daily from the water mains of the Town's domestic water supply by the Park Staff. This reduced the possibility of pollution of the water in the paddling pool to the minimum.

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

The Council has provided five ladies and six gentlemen's Public Conveniences erected in positions where they are most needed in the Urban District. These are cleaned twice daily and inspected regularly.

Difficulty is being experienced in purchasing a suitable site for the erection of new ladies and gents Public Conveniences to replace the unsatisfactory underground gentlemen's public conveniences at College Street and the ladies conveniences which is rented in the Arcade.

## FOOD AND DRUGS ACT 1955

### FOOD UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION

The following food was examined and found to be unfit for human consumption and voluntarily surrendered for disposal.



Tinned Meat	...	...	126 lbs. 9 ozs.	70 tins		
Tinned Fruit	...	...	377 lbs. 3½ ozs.	319 tins		
Tinned Vegetables	...	...	68 lbs. 5½ ozs.	90 tins		
Tinned Fish	...	...	2 lbs. 5½ ozs.	5 tins		
Tinned Rice	...	...	18 lbs. 3 ozs.	18 tins		
Tinned Milk	...	...	23½ pts.	30 tins		
Cheese	4 lbs. and	202 assorted	packed cheeses			
Cake	20	Mitre sandwiches				
Butter	182 lbs.					
Pork						

Two griskin ... .. 24 lbs. 4 ozs.

One leg ... .. 15 lbs. 0 ozs.

Bacon ... .. 12 lbs. 7½ ozs.

38 Frozen Chickens making a total weight of 139 lbs. 12 ozs.

2 Frozen Turkeys making a total weight of 22 lbs. 13 ozs.

PACKED FROZEN FOODS : 1,111 packages of assorted frozen food which were unfit due to the breakdown of the display cabinet.

## FROZEN POULTRY INSPECTION

There are no poultry processing premises within the district.

## MEAT INSPECTION REGULATIONS 1963

No Animals were slaughtered in the Private Slaughterhouse licensed in the Ammanford Urban District during 1967 and no meat inspection was carried out in the Slaughterhouse.

## SLAUGHTERHOUSES

One Private Slaughterhouse at the rear of 46, Wind Street was licenced for the slaughter of Cattle, Sheep and Pigs for Human Consumption.

## SLAUGHTERMEN

One Slaughterman's licence was issued during the year.

## FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS

The following food premises were regularly inspected.

			No. of Premises	No. Inspected
Butcher's Shops	...	...	5	62
Grocers and Provisions Shops	...	...	31	94
Bakehouses	...	...	4	24
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	7	32
Licenced Premises	...	...	13	36
Catering Premises	...	...	18	43

All the above premises conform with Regulation 16, provision of wash-hand basin, and Regulation 19 Provision of sinks; subject to the following :—

In Grocers and Provisions Shops and Fried Fish Shops forming part of a combined shop and dwelling these facilities are in the domestic part of the premises. Licenced premises have sinks only in the bar, the wash basin is in the domestic part of the premises.

#### ICE CREAM (HEAT TREATMENT ETC.)

##### REGULATIONS 1957 and 1963

Premises used for the Sale of Prepacked Icecream	...	23
Premises used for the Sale of loose Icecream	...	3
Premises used for the manufacture of Icecream	...	2

Two informal samples from each of the shops selling loose ice cream was obtained and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory.

Each sample was graded Grade 1 which is the most satisfactory result of the test for cleanliness.

#### MILK SAMPLES

The milk sold in the Ammanford Urban District is as follows :—

Untreated Milk is sold by	4 Distributors
Pasteurised Milk is sold by	10 Distributors
Sterilised Milk is sold by	2 Distributors and 3 shops

Samples of milk purchased and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory during 1967.

Untreated Milk	...	40 samples
Pasteurised Milk	...	22 samples
Sterilized Milk	...	3 samples

##### Results of Tests carried out :—

Methylene Blue Reduction Tests :

62 samples submitted, 5 samples of untreated milk failed this test.

Brucella Abortus Ring Test :

40 samples submitted, 3 samples showed positive reaction which on preparation of a culture proved to be negative.

Phosphataze Test :

22 samples submitted, all were satisfactory.

Turbity Test :

3 samples submitted, all produced a negative result.

## RODENT CONTROL

One Rodent operator is employed. When time permits the district is inspected for rodent infestation.

Occupiers of premises are encouraged to report all infestations to the Public Health Department.

All treatments with the exception of open areas, refuse tips and bank of rivers and streams were carried out after investigating complaints received.

A free service is given to all premises to encourage the maximum co-operation of the public.

No systematic baiting of the sewers has been carried out as up to date as the Amman Valley Joint Sewerage has not co-operated in supplying the Public Health Department with copies of the plans of the trunk sewers in the Ammanford Urban District Area.

Total Number of Properties subject	...	
to Rodent Control	...	2,670
Total Number of Properties in which		
treatment was carried out		
	Rats	279
	Mice	2
	—	281
Total Number of revisits	...	640

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. DAVIES,

Public Health Inspector.

## FACTORIES ACT 1961

Premises	Number on Register	Inspections	Written Notices	Prosecuted Occupiers
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities ...	8	8	Nil	Nil
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local Authority ...	29	30	Nil	Nil

G.M. HERBERT,

Medical Officer of Health.

